

SYN. NO. _____

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS ZEV YAROSLAVSKY AND
GLORIA MOLINA

June 7, 2006

On June 1, 2006 the Department of Public Health released the 2005 *Early Syphilis Surveillance Summary* for Los Angeles County. There were 1,217 reported cases of early syphilis in 2005, representing a 41% increase from 2004 and a 188% increase from 2001. The cases of early syphilis are still concentrated among men who have sex with men (MSM) and men who have sex with men and women (MSM/W); however, a disproportionate increase in early syphilis cases has been reported in African American and Latina women, who accounted for 42% of reported early syphilis cases in 2005. While effective treatment for syphilis is available, the Department of Public Health must develop and implement additional strategies to prevent, identify, and treat those who are infected as soon as possible. Anything less will lead to a continual spread of syphilis and other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors instruct the Director of Public Health to develop a comprehensive strategy and media campaign directed at prevention and intervention of syphilis and other STDs, and encouraging safe sex practices among all sectors of the population, particularly communities of color.

WE, FURTHER, MOVE that the Director of Public Health report to the Board on
MOTION

MOLINA	_____
BURKE	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____

Tuesday, June 13, 2006 on the last syphilis awareness campaign conducted by the Department, specifically on how the \$1 million allocation was targeted and utilized, the outcomes and lessons learned, and any and all culturally and linguistically appropriate materials and approaches used.

WE, FURTHER, MOVE that the Director of Public Health report to the Board in 30 days on this comprehensive strategy and media campaign, including an estimated budget and timeline. The comprehensive strategy and media campaign directed at the prevention and intervention of syphilis and other STDs shall take into account the increase in reported cases among women and the Latino and African American communities, and provide a specific focus on cultural, linguistic, and gender appropriate materials.

CK: S\Motions\Syphilis Joint Motion